



Hartlepool Port Health Authority



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

for the Year Ended 31st December
1970

By H. C. MILLIGAN
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



*With the Compliments
of the
Chief Public Health Inspector.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DURHAM HOUSE,
32 VICTORIA ROAD,
HARTLEPOOL.

Hartlepool Port Health Authority

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ANNUAL REPORT

HARTLEPOOL.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the County Borough of Hartlepool.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the work of the Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December 1970.

The number of ships entering the port was 6% higher than last year. There have been no major changes in the trade of the port but it was noted that the supply of materials for the oil survey rigs has dropped dramatically.

There has been no case of infectious disease in the port during the year.

Work under the International Sanitary Regulations, 1951 has resulted in the issue of 25 deratting exemption certificates. The standard of cleanliness of crews' accommodation on ships using the port was generally good, and the nuisances which have been abated were of a minor character and have been dealt with promptly.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. J. F. Perkins for his services as Port Health Inspector since his appointment in 1967. Mr. Perkins resigned his post in August, 1970 and Mr. H. Vaines took over his duties from 1st September, 1970. I should also like to thank the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his staff, Captain D. M. McLean and his Assistant Dockmasters, the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, H.M. Immigration Officers and also the Pilot Master and Pilots for their helpful co-operation with the officials of the authority.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. MILLIGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health
and Port Medical Officer.

PORT OF HARTLEPOOL

Section I.—Staff

The Hartlepool County Borough Council took over responsibility as Port Health Authority on 1st April, 1967. The staff is as follows :—

TABLE A.

Name of Official	Nature of Appoint'nt	Date of App't	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
H. C. MILLIGAN	Port Medical Officer of Health	1.4.67	M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Hartlepool.
B. C. BARDALAI	Deputy Port Medical Officer of Health	17.6.68	M.B. B.S. (GAN) D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Hartlepool
J. CRABB	Assistant Port Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)	1.4.67	M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. D.T.M. & H.	General Practitioner
R. EMERSON	Port Health Inspector	1.4.67	M.R.S.H. F.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of Hartlepool.
G. A. WARD	Deputy Port Health Inspector	1.4.67	M.A.P.H.I.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of Hartlepool
H. VAINES	District Public Health Inspector (Port)	1.9.70	Cert. of P.H.I.E.B	*

All the Authority's Public Health Inspectors are authorised to act under the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1966.

Address and Telephone Numbers of the Medical Officer of Health

Office : Health Department, 32 Victoria Road, Hartlepool.
Residence : 19 West Park, Hartlepool.

Address and Telephone Numbers of the Port Health Inspector

Office : Health Department, 32 Victoria Road, Hartlepool.
Residence : 150 Elwick Road, Hartlepool.

SECTION II.—Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the Year.
Table B.

Ships	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Port M.O. of Health	By the Port Health Inspector	
Foreign	427	408,279	1	427	Nil
Coastwise	630	516,310	—	582	Nil
Total	1,057	924,589	1	1,009	Nil

SECTION III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year.
Table C.

Passenger Traffic :	Number of Passengers INWARDS :	British 76	Alien 58	Total 134
	Number of Passengers OUTWARDS	British 69	Alien 46	Total 115
Cargo Traffic :	Principal IMPORTS :	Iron ore, Liquid gas, Timber, Pit props, Fertilisers, Iron and Steel, Animal feeding stuffs, Hardboard.		
	Principal EXPORTS :	Coal and coke, Iron and steel, Magnesite, Chemicals, Fertilisers and Minerals.		
Principal Ports from which Ships arrive	Gothenburg, Leningrad, Gdansk and other Baltic ports, Murmansk, Rotterdam, Slagen, Vitoria, Monrovia and Nouadibhou.			

SECTION IV—Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no such traffic.

SECTION V—Water Supply.

- 1 Source of Water : The port is supplied by the Hartlepoons Water Company, and is of excellent quality.
- 2 Reports of Tests for Contamination : Regular sampling is carried out at the port and on shore as shown in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.
- 3 Precautions taken against contamination of Hydrants and Hosepipes : Hydrants are covered when not in use and hoses are properly stored.
- 4 Number and Sanitary Conditions of Water Boats and Powers of Control by the Authority : Nil

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966

- 1 List of Infected Areas (Regulation 6).

As soon as the World Health Organisation's weekly epidemiological record is received, an abstract is made of any information likely to affect the port and this is sent to H.M. Customs Officers for the information of these officials and pilots.
- 2 Radio Messages.
 - (a) Permission by radio for vessels to enter the port is sent through the Harbour Master's office and Cullercoats radio station.
 - (b) This port has been included by the Minister of Health on the list of "Radio Receiving Ports" and messages sent to "Portelth, Hartlepool" are sent directly to the Health Department or to the home of the Deputy Port Health Inspector.
- 3 Notification otherwise than by radio.
 - (a) Arrangements have been made for the notification to the Port Health Inspector by the Customs of any ship requiring special medical attention on arrival in the port. Shipping agents also notify when they have received messages of sickness on board a ship which is expected to arrive in the port. The pilots place at the disposal of the Medical Officer their launch to take him to a vessel entering the port if such a course is necessary.

(b) All vessels from foreign ports except those on regular short voyages are boarded by a Port Health Inspector. All ships that arrive from any foreign port that is included in a list prepared under Regulation 6 are visited by a Medical Officer if possible on arrival. The Customs Officers advise the Port Health Inspector daily of all ships due to arrive at the port. In the event of no Port Health Inspector being immediately available the Customs Officer receives the Declaration of Health for collection by the Port Health Inspector.

4 Mooring Stations.

The mooring station established by the Authority with the concurrence of the Customs Officers and Harbour Master is at the buoys in the outer harbour. There is no mooring station within the docks.

5 Arrangements for—

(a) Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases (other than smallpox)

Brierton Hospital, Brierton Lane, Hartlepool.

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of Contacts.

Contacts remaining on board are kept under observation by the Medical Officer of Health, and on the vessel leaving, information is forwarded to the next port of call. Contacts leaving the ship are ordered to report to the Medical Officer of the town to which they are proceeding and the names and addresses of such contacts are forwarded to the Medical Officer of the town to which the contacts are proceeding.

(c) Cleansing and Disinfection

Disinfection of quarters in the case of infectious disease can be carried out by the Public Health Department staff.

SECTION VII—Smallpox

1 Hospital

By arrangements of the Regional Hospital Board the smallpox hospital for the area is Langley Park Hospital, Langley Park, Co. Durham.

2 Transport

Ambulances are provided by the Department's Ambulance Service.

3 Smallpox Consultant.

Dr. J. B. Robinson, Brierton Hospital, Brierton Lane, Hartlepool.

4 Facilities for Laboratory Diagnosis of Smallpox.

Specimens would be sent to Dr. J. H. Hale, Institute of Pathology, General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. (Newcastle 38811 Extension 297).

SECTION VIII—Venereal Diseases

Merchant seamen are able to have treatment for Venereal Disease at the following places at the times stated:

General Hospital, Hartlepool.	Males—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 5—6 p.m.
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General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.	Monday to Friday 9—12 noon 2—5 p.m.
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Stockton & Thornaby Hospital, Bowesfield Lane, Stockton-on-Tees.	Saturday 9.00—10.00 a.m.
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Any requiring in-patient treatment would be accommodated at the General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough, Teesside.

Cards giving information of the places and times at which treatment for Venereal Disease can be had are delivered on board ships by the Inspector.

SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships

Table D.

No cases of notifiable or other infectious diseases have been found.

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

There have been no cases of malaria on ships in or arriving at the port.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against Ships Infected with or Suspected for Plague.

There have been no such ships in the port.

SECTION XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

- 1 Procedure for inspection of Ships for Rats.
Regular inspections of ships are carried out by Port Health Inspectors and Rodent Officers.

2 Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological Examinations of Rodents.

Post-mortem examinations can be carried out by the Port Health Inspector. The Public Health Laboratory Service at Middlesbrough is available for bacteriological and pathological examinations.

3 Arrangements for Deratting of Ships.

In the case of a minor infestation on a ship holding a valid deratting or deratting exemption certificate, the rodent officer carries out trapping or poisoning or both.

Deratting for the issue of a Deratting Certificate is done with cyanide by private contractors.

Firms who undertake fumigations are :

Rentokil Ltd., South Shields.

Contra-pest Ltd., South Shields.

4 Progress in the Rat-proofing of Ships.

Generally satisfactory.

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in Ships from Foreign Ports.

Category			Number
Black rats	....	....	Nil
Brown rats	....	....	Nil
Species not known		....	Nil
Sent for examination		....	Nil
Infected with plague		....	Nil

Table F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports

No. of Deratting Certificates issued				No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)	After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total	
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	21
					21

In addition, 4 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels.

SECTION XIII—Inspection of Ships for nuisances

Table G.

Inspections and Notices—

Nature and No. of inspections	Notices served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory notices	Other notices	
1,009	Nil	29 verbal	29 complied with

The nuisances and sanitary defects consisted mainly of foul water closets, etc.

SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1943 and 1948

There are no shell-fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of the Authority. During the outbreak of food poisoning following the eating of mussels from areas to the north, the public were advised against eating mussels in and around this port.

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

This is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI—Food Inspection.

There were no foodstuffs for human consumption imported during the year.

